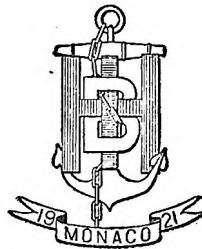


INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
BUREAU

STATUTES



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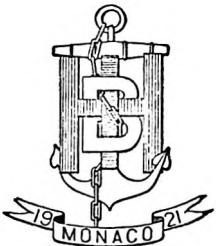


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INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
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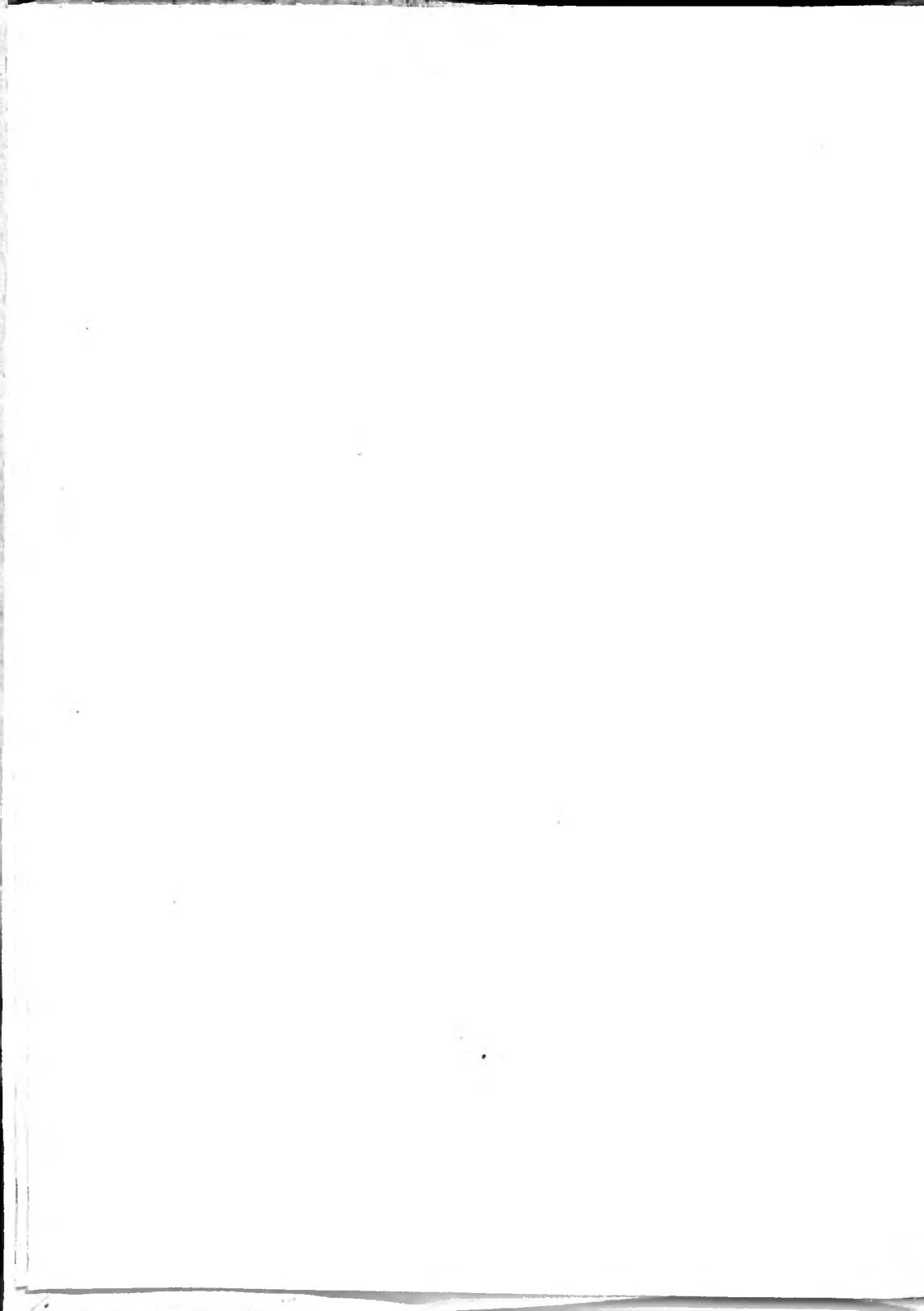
STATUTES



1947



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INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU

Statutes 1947

I. — CONSTITUTION.

1. a) The International Hydrographic Bureau is an organisation founded in June 1921 and composed of a certain number of maritime states, called States Members, the admission and withdrawal of which are the subject of articles 13 and 15.
b) It is administered by a Directing Committee consisting of three Members of different nationality, the powers of which are described in articles 18 and 20.
Their order of precedence and the method of their election are regulated by articles 51 and 52.
2. a) The seat of the Bureau is in the Principality of Monaco.
b) The languages used by the Bureau are English and French.
c) Any State, if it considers it preferable, may make use of another language in its communications with the Bureau which, however, shall not be held responsible for any delay which may ensue if any such other language is used.

II. — OBJECTS AND POWERS.

3. The Bureau has as its objects :—
 - a) To establish a close and permanent association between the Hydrographic Services of its Members.
 - b) To coordinate the Hydrographic Work of these Services with a view to rendering navigation easier and safer in all the seas of the world.
 - c) To endeavour to obtain uniformity as far as is possible in charts and hydrographic documents.
 - d) To encourage the adoption of the best methods of carrying out hydrographic surveys.
 - e) To encourage improvement in the theory and practice of the science of Hydrography.
4. a) The Bureau is a purely consultative agency ; it has no authority over the Hydrographic Services of States Members, which remain completely independent and retain absolute freedom and initiative.
b) The Bureau shall not be concerned with matters involving questions of international policy.
5. a) The Bureau will satisfy, as far as possible, all requests for information or advice in connection with its work addressed to it by a Member.
b) Questions which can be dealt with directly between two Hydrographic Offices should not, as a rule, be referred to the Bureau.
6. The Bureau shall keep itself in direct and close communication with the Hydrographic and other Scientific Offices of the Members.
It may communicate with such offices of other States also, at its discretion.
7. a) The principal work which should be undertaken by the Bureau is the following :—
 - 1° Study of documents published by the various Hydrographic Services.
 - 2° The drawing up and publication of various lists such as geographical positions, abbreviations, and conventional signs used on charts, etc...
 - 3° The study of methods of Hydrographic surveying.
 - 4° The study of methods employed for the production of the results of surveys for publication.

5° The study of the construction and use of Hydrographic instruments and apparatus, the principles of which have been approved by any Hydrographic Office.

6° The study of methods of recruiting and training personnel for surveying vessels and Hydrographic Offices.

7° Research on any other matters relating to Hydrography.

b) Reports on the result of such study and research, which appear to be of general interest, shall be sent to the Members.

8. a) For the purpose of carrying out the study and research referred to in article 7, the Bureau shall collect the latest editions of the charts and works published by the Hydrographic and other offices of the Members relating to their own coasts and to those of their Dependencies, and also such documents issued by the Hydrographic and other Offices of non-Member States which might prove useful to Hydrography and Navigation.

b) To allow the Bureau to make up these collections the Hydrographic Services of States Members shall send to it a copy of all necessary new publications and editions.

c) The Bureau shall also collect :—

1° Catalogues and Index Charts published by all countries.

2° Papers published by the Hydrographic and Meteorological Services of various countries, which may have a bearing on Hydrography and Navigation.

3° Documents of general Hydrographic character which are considered to be standard works.

9. The Bureau will distribute to the Members any useful information it receives on the subject of surveys or publications which have been carried out or published or are being prepared in the Offices of the Members, whether such work be new or for the purposes of revision. As far as is possible it will obtain such information from the Hydrographic Offices of other States and will publish it immediately.

10. The Bureau will bring to the notice of the Hydrographic or other competent Offices of the Members, Hydrographic work of an international character and questions which are of general interest which it might be useful to study or to undertake. It will do its best to cause such questions to be solved or such work to be executed by obtaining the necessary collaboration between the interested States.

11. The Bureau will, on request, tender its advice and assistance to those States which have not yet established a Hydrographic Service, or whose Hydrographic Services are not fully developed.

12. The Bureau shall give a considered opinion on all questions dealing with its work which are referred to it by Conferences or by Scientific Institutions.

III. — MEMBERSHIP.

13. a) Any Maritime State may apply to be admitted as a Member of the Bureau.

b) Any Maritime State which desires to adhere as a Member shall make application for admission to the Bureau. The Directing Committee shall thereupon take steps to obtain the opinion of all the States Members. The consent of two-thirds of the number of Members is necessary for the admission of such new Member.

c) Any Maritime State which has once been a Member of the Bureau shall have the full right to be readmitted as a Member provided the terms of article 15 have been complied with.

14. a) The Membership of any State which has not paid its contributions towards the upkeep of the Bureau (see article 28 b) and seq) for two consecutive years, shall be suspended and such State will not be accepted again as a Member until the outstanding contributions have been paid.

b) Any State Member which does not pay the full contribution due shall be given two years in which to make good the deficit, beginning with the first notice given by the Bureau ; at the end of this period its Membership shall be suspended until the balance due is received.

15. Any Member who wishes to withdraw can do so by notifying the Bureau. The date of withdrawal shall be fixed as January 1st and at least one year's notice must be given ; but the withdrawing State, by this act, shall abandon all its rights to the assets of the Bureau and to the benefit conferred by Membership.

If its financial obligations to the Bureau are not settled before withdrawal, the withdrawing State may not again become a Member until the obligations have been settled.

16. For the purpose of correspondence with the Bureau the Governments of the Members will appoint official representatives who should be, for preference, the Heads of the Hydrographic Services (see article 36).
17. Any Member may temporarily attach to the Bureau an official for the purpose of obtaining information, and the Bureau shall give him every facility for his work. Such official shall not become a Member of the Personnel of the Bureau.

IV. — ADMINISTRATION.

A. — DIRECTING COMMITTEE.

18. a) The Directing Committee shall consist of three Members of different nationality, one of whom shall act as President. Their order of precedence and the method of their election are regulated by articles 51 and 52.
b) They should have had considerable sea experience and have great knowledge of practical hydrography and navigation.
c) In the elections the technical requirements only of the candidates should be taken into consideration. No particular rank or other standing is required of them.
d) The Directing Committee shall be appointed for a period of 5 years except as mentioned in Article 52-c; they shall, however, be eligible for re-election at the end of each period.
e) A Director, having been incapacitated for duty for six consecutive months, or for an aggregate of twelve months, if not consecutive, during his mandate, shall automatically cease to be a Member of the Directing Committee.
f) In every five years of service, each Director is entitled to three months' leave, exclusive of travel time, for the purpose of visiting his own country, and reasonable travelling expenses to and from his home or official residence shall be refunded to him.
g) The duties of the Directing Committee conclude on the last day of the third month following that in which the new Committee has been elected.
h) Each Director will be specially nominated to take charge of one or more branches of the work of the Bureau, but the Committee should deliberate on all the important questions dealing therewith.
19. The Directing Committee shall generally meet once a week.
If only two Directors attend a Committee Meeting and a decision cannot be postponed to a full meeting, the vote of the President or of the Acting President shall be preponderant.
20. a) The Directing Committee has full power to contract, acquire, transfer, receive, and bring or defend actions at law, and compromise in the name of the Bureau.
b) The Director acting as President of the Directing Committee represents the Bureau in law; the Secretary-General shall, under the supervision of the Directing Committee, represent the Bureau as far as concerns ordinary transactions.
c) The Directing Committee can, by special resolution, nominate one of its Members, or any other Member of the Personnel of the Bureau, to represent it either in law or in ordinary transactions.
d) The undertakings into which the Directing Committee, or any other representative of the Bureau nominated by it, may enter in this capacity cannot render them in any way personally responsible. *

B. — SECRETARY-GENERAL.

21. a) The Secretary-General, shall be under the control of the Directing Committee.
b) He should be familiar with hydrographic surveying and its methods, and should be well acquainted with the languages used by the Bureau.
c) There are no restrictions as to his nationality except that laid down by Article 51-a.
d) The Secretary-General, having been incapacitated for duty for six consecutive months, or for an aggregate of twelve months, if not consecutive, during his mandate, shall automatically cease to be Secretary-General.

- e) In every five years of service, the Secretary-General is entitled to three months' leave, exclusive of travel time, for the purpose of visiting his own country, and reasonable travelling expenses to and from his home or official residence shall be refunded to him.
- f) The Secretary-General shall be appointed for the same period as are the Members of the Directing Committee (see : Article 18 d) and g).
- g) He may be nominated as a candidate for the post of Secretary-General at the next election.

C. — PERSONNEL.

- 22. The Personnel of the Bureau shall be under the control of the Directing Committee. They shall consist of a certain number of Technical Assistants and technical and administrative employees.
- 23. The Technical Assistants and technical and administrative employees shall be selected and appointed as necessary, by the Directing Committee.

D. — FINANCE.

- 24. a) The receipts of the Bureau and the salaries of the Directors, the Secretary-General and the Staff shall be calculated on the basis of an international standard which is the gold franc.
- b) The contributions of the Members, towards the upkeep of the Bureau shall also be based on this standard and they should be paid to the account of the Bureau at its Banks.
- 25. The contributions of the Members shall be fixed by the following rules :—
 - a) All tonnage mentioned is gross tonnage and vessels of over 200 tons only are taken into consideration.
 - b) For the purpose of obtaining the approximate gross tonnage of ships of war, this shall be taken as 6/7ths of the displacement tonnage.
 - c) Each member shall subscribe two shares of 2,000 gold francs; those which own 50,000 tons of shipping or more (Navy and Merchant Marine), shall contribute supplementary shares of the same value in accordance with the following scale :—

Gross Tonnage	Supplementary shares	Gross Tonnage	Supplementary shares
50,000 — 180,999	1	6,640,000 — 8,529,999	9
190,000 — 400,999	2	8,530,000 — 10,619,999	10
410,000 — 789,999	3	10,620,000 — 12,809,999	11
790,000 — 1,369,999	4	12,900,000 — 15,339,999	12
1,370,000 — 2,259,999	5	15,340,000 — 17,979,999	13
2,260,000 — 3,490,999	6	17,980,000 — 20,749,999	14
3,500,000 — 4,959,999	7	20,750,000 and above.	15 (max)
4,960,000 — 6,639,999	8		

- 26. a) The tonnages taken for the purpose of determining the contributions of the States Members are given in Appendix D of the Year Book (see article 36) which shall be brought up-to-date by the Bureau before each periodical Conference by the following procedure :—
The invitation prescribed by article 47 (a) shall contain a request for the revised tonnage figure for each Member, which figure should be sent to the Bureau with the list of subjects and questions to be discussed. The Bureau will add a statement of the new figures for Appendix D to the schedule which is to be despatched to the Members 6 months before the proposed date of meeting of the Conference (see article 47).
b) Should a State desire to become a Member of the Bureau it shall declare the amount of tonnage which flies its flag. The Bureau will announce this figure to the Members and enter it in Appendix D of the Year Book (see article 36) as soon as the Membership becomes definite. A State Member which wishes to amend the tonnage figure appearing in the table of tonnages shall give notice of the amended tonnage at least 6 months before the start of the next Financial Year (see article 28 a).
27. The Principality of Monaco enjoys a special treatment. In consideration of the fact that it provides the Bureau with premises free of charge, it shall not pay any contribution, but shall keep the votes to which it is entitled in accordance with article 50.

28. a) The Financial Year of the Bureau coincides with the Gregorian calendar year.
b) The contributions should be paid by each Member within the first 6 months after the commencement of its Financial Year.
c) The rate of exchange allowed should be that on the date of despatch of the contribution of the State Member, which date must be notified immediately to the Bureau.

29. A State which is admitted as a Member of the Bureau before the 1st July in any year shall make a full year's contribution and, if on or after the 1st July, shall make a half year's contribution as established by the scale shown in article 25-c.

30. The Bureau is authorised to accept donations or subventions but solely for the purpose of executing certain specified work in accord with its objects and its attributions. The decision as to the acceptance of any gift is left to the judgment of the Directing Committee.

31. a) The annual salaries of the Members of the Directing Committee and Secretary-General shall be :—

For each of the three Directors	28,200 gold francs
For the President of the Directing Committee, an allowance of	4,200 —
For the Secretary-General	21,900 —

Should the holder of the post of Secretary-General be selected for a second period, his annual salary shall be increased by 1,000 gold francs from the date when he takes up the duties of his new mandate, provided that he has held the first mandate not less than 2 1/2 years.

If the same holder is selected for a third period, the sum of 1,000 gold francs will be added during this mandate to the salary which he received annually during his previous mandate.

Should the holder be selected for more than three successive periods, his salary shall be at the rate of 23,900 gold francs per annum during his fourth and further periods.

b) The salaries of the Personnel of the Bureau shall be decided by the Directing Committee.

32. a) All salaries shall be paid monthly in arrear.
b) Should a Director or the Secretary-General resign with the approval of the Directing Committee, or should he die during his tenure of office, his salary will be paid in full to the end of the month in which his resignation or death took place.

33. a) All funds of the Bureau shall be under the control of the Directing Committee.
b) No expenditure exceeding 100 gold francs shall be incurred without the approval of one of the Directors ; before payments exceeding 1,000 gold francs are made the approval of the Directing Committee must be obtained.
c) A Reserve Fund to meet extraordinary expenditure shall be formed. The amount of this fund shall be decided by the periodical Conferences.
d) A Retirement Fund for the Personnel shall be formed. The sums set aside for the constitution of this fund in accordance with the provision of the Staff Regulations shall be earmarked for the service of the retirement grants, and as a guarantee therefore, and thus may not be employed, even temporarily, for any other purpose. These grants shall not be subject to seizure by any creditor nor shall they be deposited with any person as security.
e) A Death and Invalidity Fund will also be formed to provide special grants in cases of illness of a member of the Personnel or his dependants in accordance with local Laws and of death or of retirement through invalidity of a member of the Personnel, as detailed in the Staff Regulations.

34. a) Actual travelling expenses and an allowance for change of residence will be paid to the Directors and the Secretary-General when they first take up and when they relinquish their appointments, provided that in the latter case this is done with the approval of the Directing Committee or by a decision of a Conference ; if otherwise it shall be left to the Directing Committee to decide whether compensation for expenses shall be paid.
b) Should a Director or the Secretary-General be absent on duty from the seat of the Bureau actual travelling expenses and a subsistence allowance will be paid.
c) The change of residence and subsistence allowances shall be calculated on scales drawn up by the Directing Committee.
d) In the case of the death of a Director or the Secretary-General the change of residence allowance to which he would have been entitled may be paid to his widow or legal representative at the discretion of the Directing Committee.

V. — PUBLICATIONS.

35. a) At the beginning of each year the Bureau will publish an Annual Report on its work and finance.
- b) Three months before the termination of its Financial Year the Bureau shall draw up and publish estimates of receipts and expenditure for the following year with all necessary explanations.
36. The Bureau will publish a Year Book giving all necessary information on the Hydrographic Services of the various States, so far as this can be obtained.
The Year Book shall include the following Appendices :—
 - A) A list of States which were Members of the Bureau at the time of its creation in June, 1921.
 - B) A list of States which have joined the Bureau subsequent to its foundation.
 - C) A list of States which have withdrawn from the Bureau.
 - D) A table of tonnages of the States Members (articles 25 and 26).
 - E) A table showing the shares, votes, and contributions of the States Members.The addresses of the official representatives through whom the Bureau is authorized to correspond with the Governments of the States Members (see article 16) shall be included in the Year Book.
37. a) The Bureau will edit two periodical publications, namely *The International Hydrographic Review* and *The International Hydrographic Bulletin*.
1° In the *International Hydrographic Review* are inserted articles about Hydrography and Sciences allied to Hydrography, and on all other subjects of general interest relating to the Bureau and to the various Hydrographic Services.
2° In the *International Hydrographic Bulletin*, which appears more frequently than the *International Hydrographic Review*, matters of the moment are dealt with and information of a temporary or urgent nature is given. The Bulletin is intended to enable States Members to follow the activities of the Bureau and to make for closer collaboration between the Hydrographic Services, for which purpose information regarding work carried out and projected by them each year will be included, as far as possible.
- b) The Bureau also edits special publications on technical subjects of interest to Hydrographic Services.
38. As far as possible the Bureau will collect complete information on the subjects of the history, the organisation and the work of the Hydrographic Services, and will publish such information in the *International Hydrographic Review*.
39. The Directing Committee will determine the sale prices of the publications, but copies thereof will be supplied gratis, as far as possible, to Members.

VI. — INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC CONFERENCES.

40. The Delegates of the Members shall meet in Conference as a general rule every five years, and the Directing Committee and Secretary-General will be at the disposal of the Conference.
41. a) A supplementary Conference may be held at any time if the majority of the Members, either on the initiative of one of them or on that of the Directing Committee, consider this necessary.
b) These Supplementary Conferences will not involve any change in the Directing Committee or of the Secretary-General, unless this subject is specially brought forward for consideration.
42. The languages used at the Conferences shall be English, French and Spanish.
43. a) The Bureau will arrange the holding, and organise the meetings, of International Hydrographic Conferences ; these will be held at Monaco unless advantageous invitations to hold them elsewhere are received.
b) It will invite the Members to appoint Delegates to a Conference and will submit for their approval, invitations to other States to do likewise.
No such proposed invitation will be despatched unless it is agreed to by at least 2/3rds of the number of Members.

44. a) Each Member should send, if possible, two or more Delegates to the periodic Conferences ; these Delegates should be qualified specialists and one of them should be, for preference, the Head of the Hydrographic Service.

b) At Supplementary Conferences the number and qualifications of the Delegates will depend on the object or objects for which the Conference is convoked.

45. a) Each State shall defray the expenses of its own Delegation and in no case shall these be chargeable to the funds of the Bureau.

b) Should the Bureau not be in a position to meet all the expenses of a Conference, the Members shall be liable for the balance in proportion to their annual contributions.

46. Periodic Conferences will specially examine the reports of the Bureau as to its work and its finances since the last Conference. For this purpose, in their early stages, small Committees will be nominated, the conclusions of which will be submitted to the appropriate Plenary session of the Conference.

47. a) Twelve months before the proposed date of meeting of each periodic Conference, the Bureau will invite Members to propose lists of subjects and questions to be discussed, with explanatory memoranda. On receipt of these, the Bureau will prepare a schedule thereof and shall include a list of subjects and questions proposed by the Directing Committee, with explanatory memoranda. This schedule together with the report on the work of the Bureau and its finances since the last Conference, mentioned in article 46, shall be despatched to the Members 6 months before the proposed date of meeting.

b) No subject, which is not included in the final schedule, shall be discussed unless it is proposed by at least 3 of the Delegations of the States-Members; the President of the Conference must be notified in writing not less than 24 hours beforehand of the intention to introduce such subject.

48. a) Each member has one vote only on all questions submitted to Conferences ; the only exceptions to this are those which are laid down in articles 51 and 52.

b) A State which is not a Member, and is represented at a Conference, shall not have the right to vote on any question, the Delegation being invited to take part in a Conference in a consultative capacity and as an observer only.

49. a) All decisions will rest with the majority of votes cast, with the exception of those referred to in article 51.

b) Where voting for and against is evenly divided, the President of the Conference shall be empowered to make a decision, except in the case of the elections referred to in article 51.

50. The votes of the Members on the elections of the Directing Committee and Secretary-General shall be fixed by the following :—

a) All tonnage mentioned is gross tonnage and vessels of over 200 tons only are taken into consideration.

b) For the purpose of obtaining the approximate gross tonnage of ships of war, this shall be taken as 6/7ths of the displacement tonnage.

c) Each Member shall have two votes; those which own 100,000 tons of shipping (Navy and Merchant Marine) or more shall have supplementary votes in accordance with the following scale.

GROSS TONNAGE	Supplementary votes
100,000 — 499,999	1
500,000 — 1,999,999	2
2,000,000 — 7,999,999	3
Above 8,000,000	4

Paragraphs 26 (a) and 26 (b) refer.

51. The elections of the Directing Committee and the Secretary-General will be held by secret ballot at the end of the Conference, and the following procedure shall be followed :—

a) Each Member shall send to the Bureau two lists of names of candidates. The first list shall include the names for the Directorship and the second list those for the Secretary-Generalship. The candidates may be of the nationality of any State Member of the Bureau. These lists must reach the Bureau at least ten days before the opening date of the Conference.

- b) The name of each candidate shall be accompanied by a note giving his title to the position for which he is a candidate.
- c) If a Member does not wish to submit any candidates for election, two lists marked "nil" should be forwarded.
- d) The Bureau will then collate the names sent by the States Members and present them to each Delegation at the opening of the Conference with copies of the notes referred to in paragraph b) of this article.
- e) For the purpose of electing the Directing Committee and the Secretary-General, the Delegation of each Member shall fill up a number of voting papers equal to the number of votes allocated to it (see article 50). On these shall be inscribed, in sequence of preference, the names of all the candidates for each of these posts.
- f) In order that preference shown on the voting papers may be recorded when counting the votes the first candidate on each voting paper shall be awarded, for each vote so recorded, a number of points equal to the total number of Candidates, the second Candidate a number of points equal to the total number of Candidates less one, and so on until the last one; thus if there are 10 candidates the top one will receive 10 points, the second 9, and so on.
- g) Any voting paper not completed in strict accordance with f) will be nullified.
- h) The three candidates of different nationality who have obtained the largest number of points will be considered as elected, and will have precedence on the Directing Committee according to the points obtained.
 - The President of the Conference will then invite the newly elected Directors to take up their appointments on the first day of the fourth month following that in which they were elected.
- i) The Candidate to whom the highest number of points has been recorded shall be President of the Directing Committee.
- j) Should it occur that, in the 3 largest number of points recorded, two or more candidates have been awarded an equal number of points, the relative positions of such candidates shall be determined by a new ballot.
- k) The Members of the Directing Committee and the Secretary-General are eligible for re-election.
- l) For the election for the post of Secretary-General the same procedure shall be carried out as for the election of the Directors.
- m) To become effective in the election for the Directors and Secretary-General, alterations which should be made in Appendices D and E by the adhesion of new Members must reach the Directing Committee at least ten days before the opening date of a Conference.

VII. — DECISIONS DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN TWO CONFERENCES.

- 52. If, between Conferences, a vacancy occurs in the Directing Committee or in the post of Secretary-General, the bye-election for the purpose of filling the vacancy shall be conducted by letter unless, in the opinion of the Directing Committee, the near approach of a Conference makes this unnecessary.
 - a) The Bureau will invite the Members to send lists of candidates and notes of their services in accordance with paragraphs a), b) and c) of article 51, on receipt of these, a similar procedure to that laid down in that article will be carried out.
 - b) On completion of the procedure mentioned in paragraph a) the Bureau will make a report immediately, and this shall be sent to each Member. It will then invite the elected candidate to take up his appointment.
 - c) When a Director or the Secretary-General has been elected to fill a vacancy, his appointment shall terminate at the period when that of his predecessor would have terminated had he retained his post.
 - d) His salary shall be paid as from the first day of the month in which he takes up his appointment.
 - e) A Director elected to fill a vacancy will take precedence after the other Directors.
- 53. a) The Directing Committee shall make the necessary decisions with reference to questions which arise during the period between Conferences, except as to those specially provided for in the Statutes.

- b) Should the Directing Committee consider, however, that any question should be referred to the States-Members for solution, it shall refer the question by circular-letter to the Representatives thereof requesting them to ascertain and forward to the Bureau the wishes of their Government.
- c) On such questions each State shall have one vote only, provided for in article 48 a), and the provision of article 49 a) shall apply. If the voting for and against is evenly divided the question shall be deferred for discussion at the next Conference.
- d) In cases where circumstances do not allow the procedure laid down in the Statutes to be followed, the Directing Committee shall make the necessary decisions, but, if this is done, it shall make immediate report to the Members.

VIII. — SUPPRESSION OF THE BUREAU.

54. The Bureau may be suppressed by decision of a Conference.

The suppression of the Bureau having been decided upon, the following procedure shall be adopted.

- a) The staff shall be reduced to a minimum and each employee shall, on the day of the termination of his services, receive the sums due to him in accordance with the Staff Regulations, either as payment in lieu of notice or as a balance from the Retirement Fund or in any other manner. The rights of the employees with respect to the funds of the Bureau shall be privileged.
- b) The Directing Committee, shall be responsible for the liquidation of the affairs of the Bureau.
Their salaries and that of the Secretary-General shall be paid to the last day of the third month succeeding that in which suppression was decided upon.
- c) Should it be impossible to complete the liquidation within this period, the President will conclude this in the shortest time possible and the payment of his salary shall be continued until the end of the month in which the liquidation is completed, but not later than the last day of the sixth month succeeding that in which the suppression was decided upon.
- d) Members who have not paid their full contributions, or who are debtors to the Bureau on any other account, will be debited with the amounts due.
- e) The balance of the accounts of the Bureau shall be divided amongst the actual Members at the moment when the suppression is decided upon.

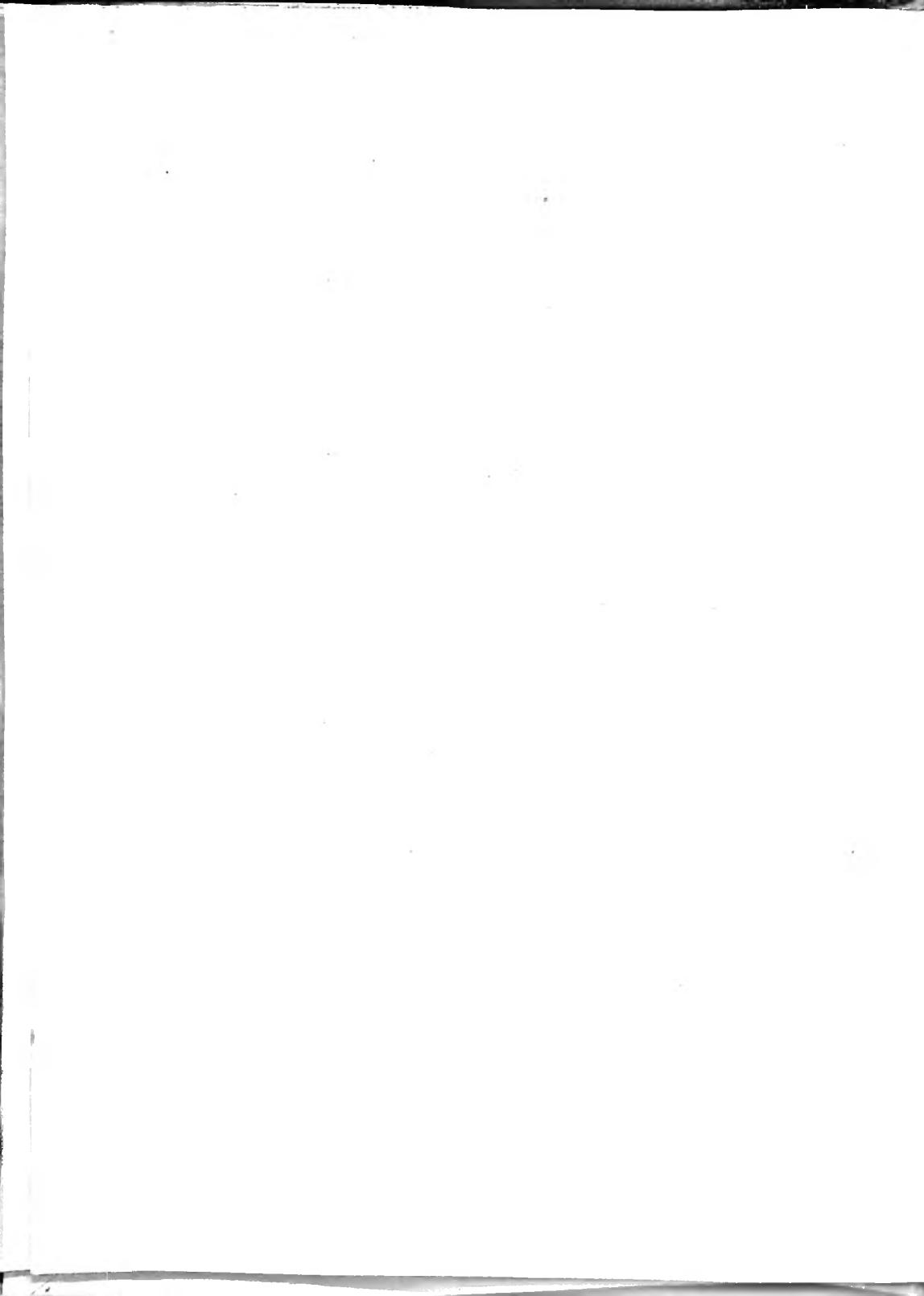
In the case of a credit balance, this will be divided amongst the States Members in proportion to the amount contributed by each of them since it joined the Bureau.
In the case of a debit balance, this will be divided amongst the States Members in proportion to their last annual contributions.

IX. — TEXT OF THE STATUTES.

55. These Statutes shall be drawn up in English and French ; should any divergence be found in the meaning of the two texts the Directing Committee will decide on the precise interpretation.

56. Changes in the text of these Statutes may be made by both Supplementary and Periodic Conferences, or under the circumstances mentioned in article 53 d). Such changes must receive the approval of at least two-thirds of the number of Members.

The new text shall come into force as soon as approved by a Plenary Session of a Conference (unless otherwise decided by the Conference) or, in the circumstances mentioned in article 53 d) two months after the date of the Circular Letter announcing the adoption of this new text.



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